



# Department of State

## TELEGRAM

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NEA-06 NSC-01 NSAE-00 L-03 TRSE-00 PH-09 PA-01  
SNS-01 ACDA-12 SP-02 SPRS-02 /070 M  
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P 151425Z MAR 82  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2620  
INFO USICA WASHDC PRIORITY 1093  
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
AMEMBASSY KABUL  
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
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6/5/85  
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E.O. 12065: N/A  
TAGS: PEPR, UR, AF  
SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS HAILS POPA CONFERENCE,  
ACHIEVEMENTS, BUT NOTES PROBLEMS

1. (LON - ENTIRE TEXT).
  2. SUMMARY: AMID VEILED SIGNS THAT NOSCON CONTINUES, TO DESPAIR OF THE PARCHAN-KHALI SPLIT, THE SOVIET PRESS IS DEVOTING HEAVY ATTENTION TO THE POPA "ALL-PEOPLES" CONFERENCE THAT OPENED MARCH 14. ALL MAJOR DAILIES HAVE CARRIED FEATURE ARTICLES DEVOTED TO THE CONFERENCE, AND PRAYDA FRONT-PAGED GREETINGS FROM THE SOVIET CENTRAL COMMITTEE TO BOLSTER FURTHER THE IMPRESSION THAT THE CONFERENCE IS A SIGNIFICANT EVENT IN THE POLITICAL LIFE OF AFGHANISTAN. PRESS AND TELEVISION NEWS COVERAGE HAS PROMINENTLY NOTED BABRAK KARNAL IN HIS ROLE AS POPA GENERAL SECRETARY. END SUMMARY.
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3. THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE'S "HARN" GREETINGS TO THE PARTICIPANTS OF THE "ALL-PEOPLES" CONFERENCE OF THE PDPA REITERATES THE FIRM SUPPORT OF THE CPSU AND SOVIET PEOPLE FOR THE DADRAX RULING GROUP, "IN ACCORD WITH THE DEEP TRADITION OF SOVIET-AFGHAN FRIENDSHIP AND GUIDED BY THE PRINCIPLE OF INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY." BUT THE MESSAGE STRIKES A DISCORDANT NOTE WHEN IT RECALLS THE PARTY'S EFFORTS TO "REESTABLISH" MUTUAL TRUST WITHIN THE RANKS, ORGANIZATIONAL AND IDEOLOGICAL UNITY, PRINCIPLEDNESS, AND STRENGTHENED PARTY DISCIPLINE, A SURE INDICATION OF AREAS THE SOVIETS VIEW AS NEEDING IMPROVEMENT. THE MESSAGE ALSO SUGGESTS THAT PROPAGANDA EFFORTS AND PARTY INDOCTRINATION NEED GREATER ATTENTION IN REMINDING ITS READERS OF THE PARTY'S "SEARCH FOR MORE COMPLETE FORMS AND METHODS OF MASS POLITICAL WORK, AND FOR RAISING IDEOLOGICAL AND POLITICAL LEVELS OF PARTY CADRE."

4. ON PRAVDA'S INSIDE PAGES, THE HISTORY OF THE PDPA IS BRIEFLY RECAPPED (AND REWRITTEN TO CONFORM MORE WITH THE PARTY LINE). SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 1968, THE PDPA HAS ALWAYS BEEN IN THE VANGUARD OF THE STRUGGLE FOR WORKERS' RIGHTS AND AGAINST EXPLOITATIVE, FEUDAL CLASSES. PRAVDA MAINTAINS, PRAVDA CHARACTERIZES THE SAUR REVOLUTION AS "ANTI-IMPERIALIST, ANTI-FEUDAL, AND NATIONAL-DEMOCRATIC," BUT BLAMES ANIN'S "SPLITIST, ANTI-PARTY" ACTIVITIES FOR CAUSING THE PDPA TO SUFFER GREAT LOSSES WHICH WERE HALTED ONLY WHEN "PATRIOTIC FORCES HEADED BY DADRAX KARNAL" EMERGED VICTORIOUS DECEMBER 27, 1979. HOWEVER, THE PRAVDA

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ITEM ALSO IS HEAVILY CRITICAL OF ORGANIZATIONAL AND INTERNAL PROBLEMS WITHIN THE PDPA IN CITING PDPA CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBER K. NAJMUDDIN'S REMARKS ABOUT WEAKNESSES IN IDEOLOGICAL-EDUCATIONAL AFFAIRS, AND "SUBJECTIVISM AND FACTIONALISM" THAT CAUSES SOME PARTY MEMBERS NOT TO FULFILL THEIR TASKS.

5. KRASHNAYA ZVEZDA (KZ), SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA AND IZVESTIYA ALL CARRY SIMILAR FEATURE ARTICLES KEYED

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ON THE "ALL-PEOPLES" PARTY CONFERENCE, THE KZ ARTICLE PRAISES THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS ACHIEVED UNDER THE POPA'S LEADERSHIP AND CLAIMS THEY WOULD HAVE BEEN "INMEASURABLY GREATER" HAD IT NOT BEEN FOR OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE IN AFGHANISTAN BY THE U.S. AND OTHER IMPERIALIST FORCES. THE STRUGGLE WITH THE COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES AND FOREIGN INTERVENTION, IT DECLARES, CONTINUES TO BE THE MOST IMPORTANT TASK FACING THE ORA. THE POPA PLAYS AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN "MOBILIZING THE PEOPLE" AND STRENGTHENING THE AFGHAN ARMED FORCES IN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST THE BANDITS. EFFORTS BY "ENEMIES OF AFGHANISTAN" TO DEFAKE AND MISINTERPRET SOVIET-AFGHAN RELATIONS, TO SLANDER THE "WORTHY MISSION OF THE WARRIORS OF THE LIMITED CONTINGENT OF SOVIET TROOPS" ARE DOOMED TO FAILURE ACCORDING TO THE ARTICLE.

6. SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA AND IZVESTIYA QUELL MORE ON THE STANDARD THEMES OF THE FAVORABLE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CHANGES BROUGHT ON BY THE POPA, AND THE BENEFICIAL RESULTS OF THE LAND REFORM PROGRAM.

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7. COMMENT: EARLIER PRESS ARTICLES HERALDING THE PARTY CONFERENCE HAVE AMPLIFIED MOSCON'S UNEASE OVER CONTINUED DIFFERENCES WITHIN THE POPA, NOT NECESSARILY LIMITED TO THE PARCHAN-KHALQ SPLIT. IZVESTIYA IN A FEBRUARY 26 ARTICLE POINTED OUT THAT REGIONAL MEETINGS PREPARATORY FOR THE PARTY CONFERENCE SHOWED "SHORTCOMINGS" IN PARTY EDUCATIONAL WORK AND THAT AMONG SOME PARTY MEMBERS ("IN TRUTH THEIR NUMBER IS EXTREMELY SMALL" IZVESTIYA ADDED DEFENSIVELY), "A RELAPSE OF THE OLD ILLNESS HAS APPEARED -- A TENDENCY TOWARDS FACTIONALISM AND CLIQUISHNESS, A TENDENCY TO PLACE ONE'S OWN INTERESTS ABOVE THOSE OF THE COLLECTIVE AND PARTY." A PRAVDA ARTICLE FEBRUARY 26 ALSO CRYPTICALLY NOTED IN PASSING THAT "A DECISIVE REBUFF WAS GIVEN TO THOSE WHO ATTEMPTED TO SPLIT THE PARTY'S RANKS" DURING THE KABUL PARTY "ELECTION" CONFERENCE.

WHILE MOSCON GIVES EVERY INDICATION THAT IT  
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CONTINUES TO BACK DADRAX, PUBLIC ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF A LACK OF PARTY DISCIPLINE, SHORTCOMINGS IN PARTY

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EDUCATION, AND FACTIONALISM ARE ALL CLEAR  
CRITICISMS OF BABRAK'S MANAGEMENT OF THE PARTY.

8. KABUL MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. ZINNERNANN

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